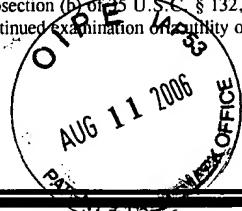


REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.



Application Number	09/884,998
Filing Date	June 21, 2001
First Named Inventor	Takemori TAKAYAMA, et al.
Group Art Unit	1742
Name of Examiner	Sikyin Ip
Attorney Docket No.	980923A

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53 (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar 20, 2000) 1233 Off. Gazette Pat Office (April 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

1. Submission Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 (with a two-month Petition for Extension of time)/ Notice of Appeal (with a third month Petition for Extension of time) previously filed on January 12, 2006 and February 24, 2006, respectively.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Preliminary Amendment
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other Petition for Extension of Time (Fourth-month).

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of Action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months (period shall not exceed three months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)
- b. Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, and additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

08/14/2006 SDENB081 00000083 09884998

- i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) 01 FC:1801 790.00 0P
- ii. Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. Other _____

- b. Check in the amount of \$2,380.00 is enclosed to cover \$790.00 for the basic filing fee; and \$1,590.00 for the fourth month Petition for Extension of Time.

**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

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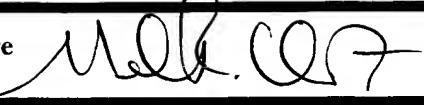
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty Docket No.

980923A

SIGNATURE BY APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name **Mel R. Quintos** Registration No. **31,898** (atty/agent)

Signature  Date **August 11, 2006**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name

Signature